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'PHONE 166,

SUMTER, S. C.

The Manning Times.

LOUIS APPELT, Editor

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SHALL THE CAMPAIGN MEETINGS GO?

It will be only a few months now before a heated campaign will be on in South Carolina with two sets of candidates touring the State, one composed of candidates for the United States Senate and Congress in the respective districts, and the other set being those aspiring to fill the office of Governor and the other State offices. It is unfortunate that these campaign meetings sometimes take the turns that they do, and that the gentlemen who aspire to a high office give vent to their feelings to such an extent as to descend into personalities and vituperation. But this fact, while it is to be deplored, is the fault of the men who are running, and not of the system under which they are campaigning for the enlightenment of the people of the State. The present system of campaigning the State by the candidates for State offices may be termed one of the faults of the general reform movement of 1890, but it will be remembered that primary elections were in practice throughout the State for several years prior to the movement in 1890. The convention system of nominating State and County officers had played out, it afforded too much opportunity for private wire pulling, and political chicanery, and the will of the people was too often made subservient to the wishes and swapping of local politicians, whereby those only who were on the inside or who were political favorites were the selected ones to fill office. The convention system, under the limit of representation then of force in the democratic party, had to go, and since a general primary election was the only substitute, in which the individual voter might have an opportunity to express himself and his wishes as to who should fill the highest offices in the State government, it was only right and reasonable that some means should be provided whereby the voter himself

might see the candidates, and hear them talk, and form some idea of the qualifications and fitness of the men who should fill the highest offices in the State. For a number of years this system of touring the State by the candidates for prominent offices, has been under fire by some people and many newspapers, and the leading daily papers of the State do not like it and are constantly jumping on the system. The News and Courier on the 9th, inst., had an editorial in the subject headed "A Vicious Rule," in which it criticised the plan very severely, and since that time we notice that a writer in that paper who signs himself "Subscriber," also contributes an article which is given editorial prominence, in which he too severely criticises the present plan of candidates touring the State and calls upon the press of the State to live up against it. But surely these people do not give the matter serious and honest fair thought when they decry the system so severely.

It is not the true reformer who merely criticises unless he has some better plan to offer, and it is not the statesman who merely finds fault with the powers above him unless he has the capacity to lead the people to better and greater ideas. Therefore if you do away with the present plan of requiring the aspirants for state offices and the representatives in both branches of congress to come before the people of all the counties, what are you going to substitute for the plan? Every voter in the State has not a personal acquaintance with all the aspirants for state office and congress, and it is but fair to the man who is charged with the exercise of the right of suffrage that he be allowed the chance to size up the qualities of the man he is called upon to vote for, and hear him speak. If the present plan of requiring state and congressional candidates to cover the State were done away with, and the candidates allowed to conduct their canvasses as they saw fit, without covering the State and seeing the people, there are various objections to such a method. In the first place it would put a premium on money, and only

the candidate who has the most money and who could hire the greatest number of workers would be elected. The man who was of moderate means, and who could not advertise heavily, and who could not hire many workers, would stand no chance of being elected, no matter what his qualifications might be. And again, if the candidates did not go before the people of the several counties the only way the voting masses of the counties would have of judging of their qualifications would be from the ideas they would get from the newspapers. It would virtually amount to turning over the selection of candidates for all state and congressional offices, to the newspapers of the state, and it would be an unfortunate day for South Carolina when fifty or sixty editors in the state should name all the men who should hold state offices or go to congress or to the United States senate. It is true that the newspapers of the State are great benefactors in the enlightenment of the people, and should be leaders of thought but it should be remembered that every newspaper expresses the views of one controlling man in the editorial chair. If we are not mistaken it was Thomas Jefferson who said that the masses of the people could always be trusted, and that while they may be swayed from the right course for a time, yet they would eventually return, and it would be a very unfortunate day for South Carolina when the selection of men for high office should be turned to a few men, or to the newspapers of the State. Then if the power of selecting the men who are to fill public offices is to be left with the masses of the voters, the voters themselves should be given the fullest and freest opportunity possible of seeing and estimating the men they are called upon to vote for. And if this be so, then the present plan of having all candidates for the high offices canvass the State for the enlightenment of the people is the best method after all.

There are those who are so narrow as to believe that the masses should not be given the free right of suffrage, but such a view, when reduced to its final

analysis, simply means that these people believe everybody else must think as they do, and that nobody must fill public office who is not approved by them, and those of their way of thinking. Solomon said that in the multitude of counsel their is wisdom, and the saying is just as true today as it was when Solomon uttered it, but if the sources and methods of information the public and the masses are to be restricted and limited, then no wonder the people will go wrong sometimes, and how can they be blamed? The true principle of a republican form of government is for the people all to be enlightened, and for all the people to have a part in the government and its making, and in the selection of the men who are to fill the higher public offices, and for this reason it is hard to conceive how it would be any improvement in the selection of men to fill the State offices and go to congress and the United States senate to deny masses the privilege of seeing them and hearing them express their views. There is another phase of the question which those who advocate doing away the county to county campaign meetings seem not to think of, and that is, that no candidate for State or congressional positions is required to make the the county rounds unless he wants to. If he wants to stay at home and conduct a private campaign in his own way, he has a perfect right to do so, but the rights of the people to see their candidates and hear them speak should not be denied just because it does not suit a few candidates to go out upon the hustings, or because it does not suit a few newspapers to send out reporters to these campaign meetings.

The plan itself is a good one, of having candidates canvass the State, and no plan can be devised which will be absolutely perfect, when the people themselves are not perfect. Nor can the people be driven in perfection. They can be persuaded and coaxed and taught and enlightened, and thus brought to more broader views and higher conceptions, but this will never be accomplished by withholding light and information from them.

THE HIT DOG HOWLS.

We threw a rock, a very small one, and the editor of The Record, emits a howl of pain, one column and a quarter long in big black type.

"My Dear Appelt Has The Gaff."

No The Manning Times never accused the editor of The Record of being responsible for all of the political devilment there is in South Carolina. He hasn't the brains or force of character to do more, than snarl and whine. This "Ransay Sniffles" of journalism, can do naught except add to the bitterness created by stronger men.

The representative of the Robinson interests in Columbia, we suppose if he has any policy beyond that of marplot and muckraker, it is to divert attention from the machinations of a predatory set, who bought the Columbia canal at a song twenty-three years ago, under a solemn contract with the State to complete it, so as to give Columbia a waterway to the ocean. These men have not complied with their contract, but have bottled Columbia up and developed a hydro electric power, that has cost them nothing, because on this valuable franchise they have sold several million dollars worth of securities to outside capitalists. This property belongs to the State of South Carolina, she has spent about one million dollars in its development and gets nothing in return. She pays a large sum yearly for lights and water for her public institutions. No wonder they seek to divert attention from the real issue, and try to create political strife from behind a petticoat. We respect Dr. Babcock, he is our friend, nobody was attacking either him or Dr. Saunders, but we appropriated this year \$289,000 for the support of the insane.

The people have a right to know how this money is spent and how the institution is managed. The people will not be deceived by this rot about attacking a woman's character. It was the duty of the Governor to know what is going on at the asylum. The Record assumes to be chief spokesman for the crowd who would make political Capital out of the sex question.

If this lady is dragged into politics, it was by those who thought they saw a chance to hit Governor Blease below the belt.

The Supreme Court of the State has lately rendered a decision in the case of the city of Anderson against Fant, which will be a matter of much importance to towns and cities in the enforcement of their ordinances with regard to the sale of liquor by blind tigers. The decision in no way modifies the law as affecting actual blind tigers, but holds that a mere "go-between" is not a seller of liquor under the general policy of the law against the sale of alcoholic liquors. The city of Anderson had an ordinance similar to that of most of the towns of the State, against the sale of alcoholic liquors within its limits, under the power conferred in the State law, commonly known as the Carey-Cothran law. Two white men wanted some liquor, and called a negro and gave him some money to go and hunt it for them, but when he returned with the liquor he was nabbed by the city authorities and charged with violation of the city ordinance.

It was not proven that the negro ran a blind tiger, or that he was in the habit of selling whiskey, although the testimony showed that he did buy the liquor from a blind tiger for the white men. The blind tiger was indicted, but the negro was found guilty before the city court, and the verdict of conviction was sustained by the circuit court, whereupon the case was carried by appeal to the highest tribunal. The decision of the supreme court holds that city ordinances in such cases must be construed in harmony with the policy of the general law of the State, and that it has never been the policy of the law to punish the buyer, but the seller of liquor, and that since it was not proven that the party indicted ran any blind tiger, or that he was in the habit of selling or transporting liquor, but merely acted as a tool or go-between to purchase the liquor from a blind tiger for the white men, an indictment against him, under the state of facts as proven, could not be sustained.

The Columbia Record of the 13th, inst., contains an editorial which purports to be a reply to an editorial in The Times, but a reading of both articles will disclose an evasion of the issue raised by The Times, with an effort to muddy the waters with large words and a congestion of thought.

The Record when it claims to "hold itself aloof from politics" reminds us of the little mischievous boy who throws a rock and looks the other way with an innocence sublime. The attempt to create the impression that a fight was made upon a woman will not materialize, the people of the State know much better than The Record appears to think, they are fully informed on whether or not the committee carried out in full the trust reposed in them or whether they only investigated that which in their judgment would make good capital to create a prejudice against the asylum authorities. Why did not the committee look into the charge that Senator Tillman made in his letters marked "personal?" We think we know the answer. The records of the general assembly show conclusively that Tillman was ignorant of the facts, or he was guilty of the grossest kind of deception.

The Times does not claim to be a partisan newspaper, but it does claim to be absolutely fair, it belongs to no faction, not to a corporation seeking to control certain benefits, and when it took issue with the popular side on certain questions, it did so from conclusions after a careful study of the questions.

The Record's allusion the "our amiable and pulchritudinous brother" may be funny did the average reader know just what was meant without first having to hunt up a dictionary. We confess that we gave The Record credit for more influence than it possesses, but this was caused by its success in bringing on a racket by wrongly quoting one of the members of the House.

Serious Indeed!
Gabe—"I saw the doctor's auto in front of your house today." "Anything serious?" Steve—"Serious? Should say so. He collected his bill!"—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Farmers' Educational and Co-Operative Union of America

Matters of Special Moment to the Progressive Agriculturist

The best system of marketing is that which comes through organization.

While the wire fence will turn stock, its a poor barrier for them against the bleak winds of winter.

As for satisfaction in garden patch produces more of it to the square foot than any other acre of the farm.

The reason some men always seem to hustle so is because they always wait until the last minute to get busy. If you beat the robins up in the morning you shouldn't allow them to beat you to roost in the evening very long.

A poor road supervisor is a detriment to any community. Better give him an ornery pup and pay him wages to play with it.

Too many of us never recognize a good thing until we have first exhausted ourselves in an effort to kick it out of existence.

It is better to invite a grouchy neighbor to dinner than to fuss with him; you cannot kill one grouch with another, even if it is a noisier one.

If a shed costing \$15 would enable you to use farm machinery costing several hundred dollars twice as long, the shed is a very good investment.

Men's ideas differ as to what will give their wives pleasure. One thoughtful man we know always celebrates his wife's birthday by buying himself a new pipe.

The farmer who allows the rabbits to carry burrs out of his field into another's as they journey across them has set a long ways to travel on the road to perfection.

If it costs to haul a bushel of wheat one mile on an ordinary country road as much as it does the railroads to haul that same bushel 200 miles, these bad roads are an expensive luxury.

Some wheels are like some men—they complain loudly under a heavy load. The difference is, that you can stop the squeaking of the wheel with a little oil, but there is mighty little to be done for a complaining man.

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease and giving the patients strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers, that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Convincing.
Many people complain that they are not appreciated at their true worth, and the numerous empty prison cells seem to bear them out.